



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
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January 9, 2007

Agenda No. 5

11/28/06

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

**Re: PLAN AMENDMENT NUMBER 2006-00001-(5)  
FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT/THREE-VOTE MATTER**

Dear Supervisors:

Your Board previously conducted a hearing regarding the above-referenced plan amendment which would amend the respective trail plan maps of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan. At the conclusion of the hearing, you indicated an intent to approve the plan amendment with revisions and instructed us to prepare the appropriate resolution. Enclosed is such a resolution for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.  
County Counsel

By

RICHARD D. WEISS  
Assistant County Counsel  
Property Division

APPROVED AND RELEASED:

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.  
County Counsel

RDW/

Enclosures

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF  
PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2006-00001-(5)**

**WHEREAS**, Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code of the State of California (commencing with section 65350) provides for adoption of amendments to General Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on May 24, 2006, to receive public testimony and discuss the matter of Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5); and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Planning Commission recommended approval of Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) on August 23, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors ("Board") held a public hearing on this matter on November 28, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds as follows:

1. The Trails Section of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan (Policies 6.1 through 6.6) promotes the implementation of a Trails Plan for the Santa Clarita Valley, which includes the dedication, construction, and maintenance of a regional trails system for hiking and equestrian use. The currently adopted Trails Map is on page 62 of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan.
2. The Trails Plan Section of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan (Policies 160 through 167) promotes the implementation of a Trails Plan for the Antelope Valley, which includes the dedication, construction, and maintenance of a regional trails system for hiking and equestrian use. The currently adopted Trails Map is on the page following page V-20 of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.
3. The Trails Map in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan was last revised in 1990 and the Trails Map in the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan was last revised in 1996. Northern Los Angeles County has experienced rapid growth in the interceding years, raising concerns over the preservation of trails in the area and creating a need for the adoption of revised Trails Maps.

4. Over the course of recent years, the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Council ("SCVTAC") has worked closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR") to update the Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley. The membership of SCVTAC includes representatives from the Angeles National Forest, California State Parks, the City of Santa Clarita, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, local community groups, and land owners and developers.
5. In order to identify historic trails that have been utilized for decades, the majority of which are located in undeveloped areas and traverse vacant land, several members of SCVTAC rode, hiked, and/or drove along the approximate alignments of those trails with a Global Positioning System (GPS) device. After months of such field work by members of SCVTAC, DPR staff plotted the location of 500 miles of historic trails on a map using Geographic Information System technology.
6. DPR staff worked with SCVTAC to refine the 500-mile historical trail network into a 191 mile system of major connector trails that would link the unincorporated communities of northern Los Angeles County, tie into existing trails in the Angeles National Forest, and connect to existing trails in the cities of Palmdale and Santa Clarita. The system is large enough to provide adequate connectivity while small enough to enable DPR to effectively manage its construction and ongoing maintenance.
7. Several trails depicted in the currently adopted Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan were not included in the revised Trails Maps created by DPR and SCVTAC. DPR staff determined that these routes, most of which were located in the Angeles National Forest, are no longer part of the system.
8. Numerous community meetings were held by DPR in 2005 to present the revised Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley and to solicit input from local residents and property owners. Specifically, meetings were held in Castaic on September 21, 2005; in Acton on October 3, 2005; in Stevenson Ranch on October 5, 2005; in Santa Clarita on October 6, 2005; in Agua Dulce on October 12, 2005; and at William Hart Regional Park on October 20, 2005.
9. An Initial Study was prepared for the proposed Plan Amendment pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial Study demonstrates that there is no substantial evidence that the Plan Amendment will have a significant effect on the environment.

10. A Negative Declaration was prepared for the proposed Plan Amendment in compliance with CEQA, referenced as State Clearinghouse No. 2006041151, and circulated for public comment for a 30-day review period from April 24, 2006 to May 24, 2006.
11. Adoption of the proposed Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals, policies, and programs of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.
12. At the conclusion of its hearing, the Board indicated its intent to adopt the revisions to the respective trail plans as recommended by the Regional Planning Commission with revisions to the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Map consisting of the removal of a section of the Hasley Canyon Trail west of Ayala Road; a revised section for the Del Valle Trail as outlined in the revised report presented by DPR; and the removal of a section of the trail in the Hasley Canyon Extension in Oak Canyon, generally between Hasley Canyon and the Ventura County line primarily impacting the Lechler Trust and Hathaway properties as and potentially other properties.
13. The Board further instructed DPR and the Department of Regional Planning to study the Del Valle and Oak Canyon trail corridors, working with trail users, equestrians, and property owners to best provide needed connections to trails in this area and adjoining Ventura County and to report back with findings and recommendations within 90 days for additional plan amendments as appropriate.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Certifies that the Negative Declaration that was prepared for Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the State and County Guidelines related thereto, finds on the basis of the whole record before it that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the County, and adopts the Negative Declaration;
2. Finds that the proposed Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals, policies, and programs of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan; and
3. Adopts Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) amending the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan Trails Map and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan Trails Map, as recommended by the Regional Planning Commission and as further revised by the Board as described in more detail, above.

The foregoing resolution was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board also acts.

SACHI A. HAMAI, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of  
the County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.  
County Counsel

By   
Deputy

**EXHIBITS ON FILE AT**  
**THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**ROOM 383, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**